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August 26, 2005

The Honorable Jay Nixon
Missouri Attorney General
Supreme Court Building
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Dear Attorney General Nixon:

This comes to update you on the status of the 131st Fighter Wing at Lambert Field in St. Louis.

Despite the best efforts of my office, the Adjutant General, and our congressional delegation, the Base Realignment and Closure Commission did not remove the 131st from the list of base closures and realignments. As I stated in my July 22, 2005 letter to you, I believe this decision, if upheld, will be a devastating blow to homeland defense and homeland security for the heartland.

As you are aware, several days ago members of your staff briefed my office on preparations for a lawsuit should that become necessary. Now that the Commission has voted to keep the 131st on the list of base closures and realignments, I believe it is the appropriate time to initiate the lawsuit as you have outlined. Please proceed at your earliest opportunity.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or my office if you need assistance or information in support of the lawsuit. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Matt Blunt